


Operator Characteristics	Quantity
Principal operators by primary occupation:	
Farming	90
Other	40
Principal operators by sex:	
Male	115
Female	15
Average age of principal operator (years)	56.4
All operators ⁵ by race:	
White	158
Black or African American	10
American Indian or Alaska Native	-
Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander	-
Asian	-
More than one race	-
All operators ⁵ of Spanish, Hispanic, or Latino Origin	-

Footnotes: 1/ Universe is number of counties in state or U.S. with items. 2/ Beginning with 1997, data includes an adjustment for undercoverage. 3/Due to changes in definition and wording of questions, figures for “cropland pasture” and “other pasture” are not always comparable from the Census. Acreage beginning with 1964 refer to pastureland and rangeland, other than cropland and woodland pastured, on farms with sales of agricultural products of \$2,500 and over. 4/ Beginning with 1974, agricultural operations under individual management with annual sales of \$1,000 or more. 5/ Data were collected for a maximum of three operators per farm. NA Not Available. (D) Cannot be disclosed. (Z) Less than ½ of the unit shown. See “Census of Agriculture, Vol. 1, Geographic Series” for complete footnotes.



Distributed by:
Virginia Agricultural Statistics Service
P.O. Box 1659
Richmond, VA 23218-1659

Phone (804) 771-2493
FAX Number (804)-771-2651
<http://www.nass.usda.gov/va>
Kevin Barnes, Director

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to
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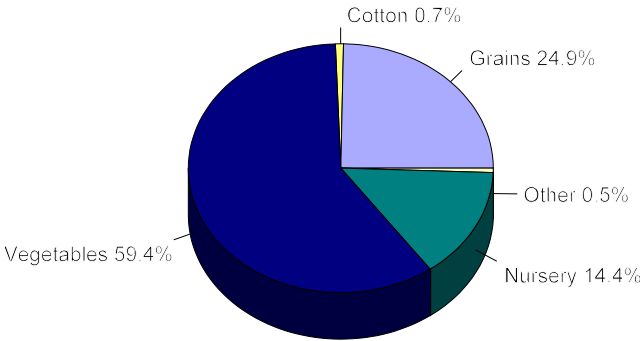
Sussex County lies mostly in the southern coastal plain, except for the extreme western corner which is in the Piedmont Plateau. It is bordered on the northeast by the Blackwater River and partly on the west by the Nottoway River. Formed in 1754 from part of Surry, the county was named after either the English shire of the same name or Lord Sussex.

The topography of the county is made up of low, irregular hills and some level land, and includes almost 251,000 acres of woodland. Elevations vary from 50 to 250 feet above sea level. Temperatures for the area average a moderate 40 degrees in January and 77 degrees in July. The frost-free growing season is roughly 190 days, usually extending from around April 15 to October 22. Annual precipitation averages 48 inches.

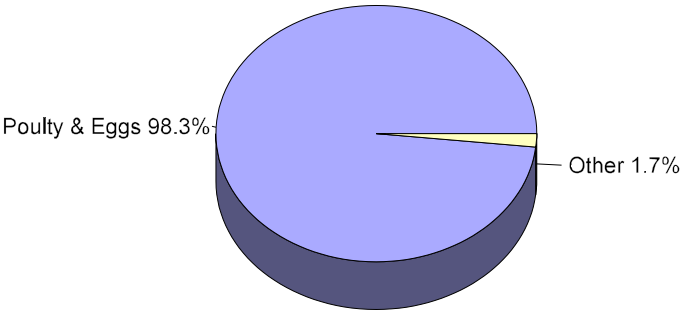
Highlights	2002	1997
Number of Farms	130	153
Land in Farms (acres)	74,196	82,938
Average size of farm	571	542
Market Value of Production		
County Total	\$25,074,000	(D)
Average per farm	\$192,878	(D)
Government Payments	\$1,206,000	\$535,000

CASH RECEIPTS

Crops



Livestock & Poultry



Ranked Items among the 98 state counties and 3,078 US Counties, 2002					
Commodity	Quantity	State Rank	Universe 1/	US Rank	Universe 1/
VALUE OF SALES BY COMMODITY GROUP (\$1,000)					
Grains, oilseeds, dry beans, and dry peas	3,690	17	95	1,348	2,871
Tobacco	191	28	43	371	560
Cotton and cottonseed	(D)	(D)	15	(D)	656
Vegetables, melons, potatoes, and sweet potatoes	62	68	95	1,948	2,747
Fruits, tree nuts, and berries	(D)	(D)	93	(D)	2,638
Nursery, greenhouse, floriculture, and sod	(D)	(D)	95	(D)	2,708
Cut Christmas trees and short rotation woody crops	-	-	76	-	1,774
Other crops and hay	2,995	6	97	413	3,046
Poultry and eggs	(D)	(D)	94	(D)	2,918
Cattle and calves	396	75	97	2,794	3,053
Milk and other dairy products from cows	-	-	83	-	2,493
Hogs and pigs	(D)	(D)	90	(D)	2,919
Sheep, goats, and their products	(D)	(D)	93	(D)	2,997
Horses, ponies, mules, burros, and donkeys	53	67	94	2,318	3,014
Aquaculture	-	-	44	-	1,520
Other animals and other animal products	-	-	87	-	2,727
TOP LIVESTOCK INVENTORY ITEMS (number)					
Cattle and calves	2,117	73	97	2,799	3,059
Horses and ponies	129	86	97	2,913	3,065
All Goats	92	79	95	2,319	2,971
TOP CROP ITEMS (acres)					
Soybeans	16,195	9	79	909	2,076
Peanuts	6,156	4	14	66	398
All Cotton	5,522	6	17	317	663
Corn for grain	4,515	28	96	1,315	2,592
All Wheat for grain	3,564	18	87	1,055	2,517

FARM DATA & LAND USE									
YEAR	Number of Farms	Land in Farms	Avg. Value Per Acre For Land & Buildings	LAND USE					
				Cropland			Other Pasture 3/	Woodland	
				Harvested	Other	Pasture		Pasture	Not Pastured
	Number	Acres	Dollars	-Acres-					
1940	1,236	178,843	20	41,000	12,127	5,971	NA	NA	NA
1945	1,166	193,988	26	45,585	7,240	2,440	1,733	16,347	116,937
1950	1,280	184,180	40	42,958	6,206	4,580	1,588	12,813	108,908
1954	1,099	182,138	90	43,002	4,448	3,595	7,060	12,568	107,671
1959	787	134,552	131	39,647	3,005	3,816	3,431	6,265	75,126
1964	580	126,975	143	36,246	6,415	2,840	6,438	NA	NA
1969	560	131,544	218	40,678	8,379	6,472	2,211	13,633	38,221
1974 4/	345	108,860	453	40,468	1,987	5,446	6,396	NA	NA
1978	293	100,372	819	41,429	4,375	3,428	1,731	5,390	40,946
1982	258	98,081	904	50,587	2,120	3,258	2,158	2,309	35,459
1987	196	81,106	840	40,028	8,091	2,344	1,114	2,396	25,643
1992	160	82,736	956	40,157	7,893	2,046	4,628	2,842	23,720
1997 2/	153	82,938	1,285	39,829	3,930	1,716	(D)	(D)	(D)
2002	130	74,196	1,554	35,073	2,071	1,045	3446	2490	27,930

See footnotes on back.